



Library Resources for the Bar



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A guide to the Libraries of the four Inns of Court

Issued by the Inns of Court Libraries Liaison Committee 2022

All four Inn Libraries are open to barrister members of the Inns of Court. Co-operation between the Libraries is overseen by the Inns of Court Libraries Liaison Committee, which aims to make the best use of the Libraries' extensive resources for the benefit of the Bar as a whole, and to ensure that the services that are offered meet the needs of practitioners.

All the Libraries have a full collection of English legal materials. In addition each Library has responsibility for the specialist collections listed in this guide. Online catalogues of each Library are available on their respective websites.

A union list showing the holdings of current law reports, journals, and electronic resources has also been prepared for quick reference. It is available in printed form at each Library and on all four library websites. Library staff are always willing to give guidance on alternative sources when material needed is not held by the Inn Libraries.

All the Libraries offer distance services to barristers who are unable to visit the Libraries in person. Subject to copyright restrictions, photocopies can be sent by email or post (*contact individual libraries for charges and further details*). The Inns also have an arrangement whereby copies can be obtained from the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, where the material is not held at the Inns, or if copyright-cleared copies are needed – barristers should apply for this service to their Inn Library, not direct to the Institute.

A further co-operative arrangement is Saturday opening. During legal term one Inn Library is open from 10.00am to 5.00pm on Saturdays on a weekly rota. The rota (which as far as possible is organised in alphabetical order) appears on the library websites, as well as on printed calendars available in the Libraries.

Gray's Inn Library

Address: 5 South Square
Gray's Inn
London, WC1R 5ET

Telephone: 020 7458 7822

Email: library.information@graysinn.org.uk

Website: www.graysinn.org.uk/library

Catalogue: www.graysinnlibrary.org.uk

Director of Library Services: Guy Mitchell



Hours: During Legal Terms Monday - Friday 9.00am - 8.00pm
Saturdays / Vacations Contact Library or see website

NOTE: opening hours were varied due to COVID-19, you are advised to check the website for current opening hours.

Admissions Policy:

Open to all members of the four Inns of Court.

Specialisms:

International law (including the Lauterpacht Collection), Human rights, Northern Ireland, Air & space law, Conflict of laws, Constitutional & administrative, Construction law, Consumer law, Data protection, Education, Energy law, Entertainment & media law, Environmental law, Highways, Housing law, Immigration & nationality, Information technology, Local government, Planning law, Rates & council tax, Social security & welfare law, Sports law, Telecommunications.

Loans:

All Library users may borrow ordinary books and bound periodicals for either an hour during opening times or overnight from an hour before closing until an hour after opening, on the production of appropriate ID.

Benchers may borrow items for a longer period in person or through an intermediary on production of a note bearing the Bencher's signature.

For further details of what may be borrowed please apply to staff.

Distance Services:

We are happy to offer remote assistance with identifying and sourcing legal information. The Library can supply copies of legal materials by email or post to all members of the Inns of Court, provided that copyright is not infringed.

Charges and further details are available on our website:

<https://www.graysinn.org.uk/library/document-supply-service>

Online Services:

Library Catalogue and access to the other Inn's catalogues at www.graysinnlibrary.org.uk

JustisOne, Lawtel, Lexis Library, Practical Law and Westlaw UK plus a range of specialist services including Electronic Immigration Network, Oxford Reports on International Law, International Encyclopaedia of Laws (Kluwer Law Online), HeinOnline and i-Law.

E-book access to Blackstone's criminal practice and Blackstone's guide to the Sentencing Code via the Law Reader App and e-book access to Archbold: criminal pleading, evidence and practice via ProView.

Remote access for Gray's Inn members to Bloomsbury Professional Online including full-text access to materials in 20 practice areas including company and commercial, employment, environment, family, local government, property and personal injury.

The Times Newspaper is available electronically via the Times Digital Archive from 1785 to 2014, recent issues and exclusive content can also be accessed online via The Times website.

Other Services and Facilities:

- Newspapers: Daily Telegraph, Financial Times, Guardian and The Times.
- Publications: Library Guides and Library Bulletin.
- Photocopying & Printing Services: Self-service copying machines with scan to email/print/copy facilities and printing from own devices also available.
- Networked PCs: Providing word processing, internet access and access to legal databases through the Library's intranet.
- Wi-Fi access.
- Disability services include: A lift for wheelchair users, free parking (arranged as necessary), two height- adjustable desks, assistive technology for blind and partially-sighted users, plus a low-resolution screen and a large print keyboard.
- Social media: follow us on Facebook and Twitter.
- 24 Medieval manuscripts available to view by appointment:
<https://www.graysinn.org.uk/library/Special%20Collections>



Inner Temple Library

Address: Crown Office Row
Inner Temple
London
EC4Y 7HL

Telephone: 020 7797 8217

Email: Enquiries: library@innertemple.org.uk

Distance Service:
distanceservice@innertemple.org.uk

Website: www.innertemplelibrary.org.uk

Catalogue: https://int.ent.sirsiidynix.net.uk/client/en_GB/innertemple/

Librarian: Rob Hodgson



Hours: During Legal Terms Monday - Thursday 9.00am - 8.00pm, Friday 9.00am - 7.00pm
Vacations Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm
Saturdays Contact Library or see website

Admissions Policy:

Open to all members of the four Inns of Court.

Specialisms:

Commonwealth legislation and law reports, especially Canada, Caribbean, Hong Kong and Indian subcontinent.

Scottish law reports, textbooks and journals.

Loans:

Law books: Barrister members or tenants of the Inner Temple and barristers from chambers within (or in the vicinity of) any of the four Inns may borrow up to two titles from the legal collections 30 minutes before the Library closes. Loose-leaf publications, old editions and reference books are not available for loan. Books must be returned by 9.30am on the next day that the Library is open.

Distance Services:

Documents (subject to copyright) can be sent by scan/email or post to barrister members of all four Inns and to student members of the Inner Temple. Charges on application or via the website. Photocopies can also be obtained on behalf of Inner Temple barristers from the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. Further details and charges available on application to the Library Enquiry Point.

Online Services:

The following services are available within the Library.

Online access to the four Inn Libraries' catalogues.

Internet subscription services include: Bloomsbury Professional Online, Criminal Law Week, Electronic Immigration Network, HeinOnline, i-law (selected content), ICLR Online, Kemp on Lawtel (available on Westlaw), Lawtel (available on Westlaw), Lexis+ (UK and Commonwealth content), Practical Law, The Times (1 July 1985 onwards via Lexis+), The Times Digital Archive 1785-2019, The Times Law Reports, vLexjustis (selected UK and Caribbean databases), Westlaw Canada and Westlaw UK.

Also available are the White Book (on CD-Rom) and CourtServe (Court listings database).

Remote Access:

Web-based access to the catalogues of all four Inn Libraries (https://int.ent.sirsidynix.net.uk/client/en_GB/innertemple/).

Current Awareness blog providing up-to-date information on new case law, changes in legislation and legal news (www.innertemplelibrary.com).

Legal Research:

Training sessions on print and online resources are run for pupils and barristers. The Research & Training section on the website features legal research guides, database guides and FAQs on UK and EU law, treaties and Parliamentary publications.

Other Services and Facilities:

- Free Wi-Fi access.
- Public access PCs with web, email and office software. USB sticks available for purchase.
- Photocopying: Self-service copying machines with scan/email facility.
- Newspapers: Daily Telegraph and Guardian (current day's issue only) and the Financial Times and The Times (3 months only).
- Publications: Electronic Newsletter, Quick Reference Guide and a range of guides to the Library and its online services.
- Social Media: Follow us on Facebook, Instagram LinkedIn and X.
- Accessibility: A height-adjustable desk, two PCs with large-screen (21") monitors and JAWS screen-reading software, desktop video magnifier for use with printed material, and a hearing loop for the hard of hearing.

Lincoln's Inn Library

Address: Lincoln's Inn
London
WC2A 3TN

Telephone: 020 7242 4371

Fax: 020 7404 1864

Email: library@lincolnsinn.org.uk

Website: www.lincolnsinn.org.uk

Librarian: Dunstan Speight

Hours: Legal Terms and Vacation Mon-Fri 9.00am – 8.00pm, except
August to mid-September Mon-Fri 9.30am – 6.00pm

Saturdays Contact Library or see website

Early or exceptional closing posted on website



Admissions Policy

Open to all members of Lincoln's Inn and to barrister members of the other Inns of Court.

Specialisations

Commonwealth legislation and law reports, especially Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei, Africa, Sri Lanka and the Pacific.

Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

Parliamentary Papers 1801 to date. House of Commons Standing and Public Bill Committee debates 1983/84 to date.

House of Lords and Privy Council printed cases and appeal documents to 2008.

Chancery practice particularly catered for in acquisition of English materials.

Loans

To barrister members of the Inn and barristers with chambers in the Inn (and their pupils) only. Most material overnight (after 6.00pm to be returned by 9.30am). Longer loans for limited categories of non-current material.

Distance Services

Documents (subject to copyright) sent by email, fax or post to any barrister. Charges on application.

Photocopies can also be obtained on behalf of Lincoln's Inn barristers from the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. Further details and charges on application.

Online Services

Web-based access to Lincoln's and Gray's Inn Library catalogues at www.lincolnsinnlibrary.org.uk

Internet subscription services include: Commercial Law Cases, Electronic Immigration Network, HeinOnline (journals and the English Reports), ICLR Online, IDS Brief, Jersey Legal Information Board (unreported cases), Justis (Parliament, UK Legislation), Lawtel, Lexis Library (All England Direct, Case Search, Halsbury's Laws, Legislation Direct), Solicitors Journal and Westlaw UK.

A wide range of texts and materials are also available on CD-Rom.

Other Services and Facilities

- Free Wi-Fi access.
- Word processing facilities.
- Photocopying: Self-service copying machines (card or coin operated).
- Newspapers: Daily Telegraph, Financial Times, Guardian, The Times.
- Publications: Quick Reference Guide, range of guides to the Library and its online services, union list.
- Microfiche reader-printer.



Middle Temple Library

Address: Middle Temple Lane
Ashley Building
London
EC4Y 9BT

Telephone: 020 7427 4830

Email: library@middletemple.org.uk

Website: www.middletemplelibrary.org.uk

Librarian: Renae Satterley

Hours: Legal Terms Monday - Friday 9.00am - 7.00pm
Vacation Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm

Saturdays See Introduction

Closed first two weeks of August

Early or exceptional closings posted on website



Admissions Policy

Open to all members of the four Inns of Court. Open to non-members for research access to the rare books and manuscripts collection (upon application to the Librarian).

Specialisms

European Law – covering the law of the European Union and the relevant law of the member states.

US Law – a substantial collection of American textbooks, law reports, and federal and state legislation. A large collection of books on capital punishment, available for loan.

Ecclesiastical Law – a collection of textbooks, the *Ecclesiastical Law Journal*, and reports of Consistory Court judgements dating back to 1891, including some unreported cases.

Loans

Members of any Inn may borrow textbooks overnight or for the weekend. Books may be borrowed an hour before closing time and must be returned the next working day by 10am. Trials and biographies may be borrowed for longer loan periods. We also offer a collection of general legal interest books for four-week loans; consult the catalogue for the full list.

Distance Services

Documents sent by email to members of the four Inns, upon completion of a copyright declaration form. Details regarding charges are on the website:

<https://www.middletemple.org.uk/library/library-services/document-delivery-service>.

Books from the London Library can be obtained on behalf of Middle Temple members to be read on site in the Library. Articles can be printed from their remote services by a member of the Library staff. Ask at the Enquiry Desk for more information.

Electronic Services

Library catalogue and access to the other three Inns' Library catalogues:

www.middletemplelibrary.org.uk

Access to the following databases within the Library: Bloomsbury Professional, HeinOnline, iLaw, ICLR Online, JustisOne, Kluwer Arbitration and Competition, Lexis Library, Lexis PSL, LLMC, Oxford Competition Law and Legal Research Library, PLI+, Practical Law, Public Information Online, U.K. Parliamentary Papers, Westlaw UK, and Westlaw US.

Remote access for Middle Temple members to Bloomsbury Professional and Lexis PSL upon application to the library.

A selection of e-books (including the White Book) available on an iPad which can be borrowed for a week for a charge of £5 (or £1 per day).

A selection of e-books on a dedicated library terminal.

Other Services and Facilities

- Computer facilities: Wi-Fi throughout the Library. PCs with MS Office, internet access and access to the databases. USB sticks available for purchase.
- Copying facilities: Self-service printing, scanning and copying machines operated by an account (set up at the Enquiry Desk). Remote printing from laptops, tablets or smart phones
- Newspapers: Private Eye, The Daily Telegraph, The I, The Times
- Publications: Library subject guides (available in print or PDF via the website) and copies of the *Middle Templar*.
- Accessibility: Lift to all floors. Portable hearing loop for the hard of hearing. Touchscreen 21" monitors.

